

The Laurens Advertiser.

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CHARRED REMAINS OF GEO. F. YOUNG TAKEN FROM RUINS OF BURNED HOME

**Terrible Tragedy in Lower
Part of the County.**

**EOUL PLAY SUSPECTED
MYSTERY UNSOLVED**

**No Definite Clue has been Found to
Point Directly to the Theory of Mur-
der, but There is Strong Suspicion
of Foul Play. Skull Fractured.**

What appears to have been one of the most mysterious and at the same time most deplorable events in the recent history of the county occurred in the early morning hours near Renno yesterday when Mr. Geo. F. Young met his death either by burning or by foul play. About three o'clock yesterday morning the home of Mr. Young was found completely enveloped in flames and through it all could be seen his dead body lying across the hearth. How the fire started or whether Mr. Young was murdered and the house set afire to hide the crime has not yet been determined. It was midway yesterday before the ruins of the house were sufficiently cooled for friends to reach the dead body and extinguish the flames.

Mr. Young was an extensive farmer on a large two thousand acre estate several miles from Renno. He spent most of his time there, his wife and four children living in Laurens for the social and educational advantages.

Conflicting theories have been advanced as to how and why the tragedy occurred. The only real and tangible evidence of any kind yet available is the bare fact as to the situation which existed shortly after and at the time the fire was discovered. One Tom Young, colored, who is being held as a suspect, first discovered the fire supposedly on his way to work. He gave the alarm and soon other negroes were on the scene. Nothing effective could be done to extinguish the flames. White people having heard of the tragedy being enacted, hurried to the scene but they could do little to put out the fire. About noon the flames had died down sufficiently for the men to make their way to the dead body. The limbs were found almost entirely consumed and the trunk was so badly burned that the heart and other organs were exposed to view. On each side of the forehead were two indentations of the skull and these are the only clues so far found to justify the theory of murder. An axe with the handle burned out was found in the room, but no other evidence was discovered. Whether the fractures in the skull were caused by falling timbers or by some instrument in the hands of another is the question not yet solved.

Tom Young, the first negro on the scene, has been arrested on suspicion, it being stated that he and Mr. Young had previously had a disagreement. A large crowd of men gathered very rapidly yesterday morning and excitement ran high for a time. However, no trouble is anticipated and in case the sheriff sees fit to hold this negro or arrest others they will most probably be given a trial in the courts.

Mr. Young is survived by his wife and four children, as follows: G. Dudley Young, of Gaffney; Stobo G. Young, Detroit; Misses Ramelle and Elizabeth Young. The funeral services will be held from the house on North Harper street Thursday morning at 11 o'clock.

Rev. Mitchell at Lucas Avenue.
Rev. G. C. Hedgepeth, pastor of Lucas Avenue Baptist church, this city, states that Rev. B. P. Mitchell, Secretary of the Laurens Association, is conducting an Enrollment Meeting in his church this week. Services begin promptly at 7:30 o'clock each evening. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Laurens Delegation Off.
Senator O. P. Goodwin and Representatives W. C. Irby, Jr., H. S. Blackwell and Geo. A. Browning, Jr., left Monday for Columbia to attend the sessions of the legislature. Before leaving they made no announcement of any special legislation affecting this county.

COUNTY TEACHERS MET SATURDAY

**Address by Superintendent of Edu-
cation J. E. Swearingen. Routine
Matters Attended To.**

The regular monthly meeting of the county teachers and trustee associations was held in the graded school auditorium Saturday. A very interesting and profitable program was carried out, among the items on the program being an address by Superintendent of Education J. E. Swearingen. Mr. James H. Sullivan, the newly appointed county superintendent of education, made a short address to the teachers and Mr. Geo. L. Pitts spoke briefly in making his farewell appearance as a member of the association.

The joint session of the two associations was held, individual sessions were held by each association. Mr. Swearingen presided over the meeting of the trustees and made a very forceful talk outlining some of the duties of the trustees and some of the imperative needs of the schools. Mr. W. Carl Wharton, president of the trustee association, made a stirring address stressing the importance of co-operation.

According to reports made public at the meeting, over \$1,200 was realized from entertainments of the improvement associations during the months of November and December.

BIG LAND SALE.

**Lots to be Sold at "Hillcrest", Beau-
tiful Site on Farley Avenue.**

The Traxler Real Estate company of Greenville are advertising a very attractive land sale to take place in this city Monday morning beginning at 10:30 o'clock. The tract of land to be cut up into building lots and sold is that beautiful piece of property on Farley Avenue which has been owned for some years by Mr. W. L. Gray and which is looked upon as one of the most attractive undeveloped pieces of real estate in the city. There are fourteen lots 50x150 facing Farley avenue and 100 lots of the same dimension on Chestnut street. There are a number of other attractive lots, making about 200 in all. Penny Brothers, the twin auctioneers, will cry the sale.

The public is especially requested to bear in mind that to get the benefit of the prizes offered in the circular advertisements, it will be necessary to be on hand both when the sale opens and when it closes.

Nearly Eight Thousand Ahead.

According to figures furnished The Advertiser by Mr. Charles McCrady, the cotton ginnings for this county up to January 1 were 42,881 bales. Up to the same period last year the ginnings were 35,046 bales. This shows an increase of 7,835 bales over last year. The total ginnings for the entire season of 1911 were around 55,000 bales, so it is hardly probable that this season's crop will reach the highwater level set that year by many thousands of bales.

New With The Advertiser.

Mr. Geo. B. Grist, until recently of Yorkville, has accepted a position in the job and ad-setting departments of The Advertiser and has already begun his duties. Mr. Grist has worked in several modern printing offices, including modern plants at Charlotte and Yorkville. He is a married man and will bring his family here in a few weeks. Mr. Grist takes the place of Mr. Walter Moore, who so acceptably filled the position up until a few weeks ago when he went on the farm.

Will Build Home.

Mrs. A. R. Irby has recently purchased a lot on South Harper street from Mr. E. P. Minter and at an early date will begin the erection of a handsome two-story home. The lot is directly in front of the hospital on the opposite side.

Meeting of D. A. R.

The Henry Laurens chapter, D. A. R., meets Friday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock, with Mrs. W. H. Dial.

ALBERT F. SIMPSON DIED FRIDAY

**Only Son of Mr. and Mrs. P. A. Simp-
son. Has Recently Been Living in
Cheraw.**

Friday morning at four o'clock, Albert F. Simpson, only son of Mr. and Mrs. P. A. Simpson, died at the family residence in this city. Mr. Simpson returned home from Cheraw some weeks before the Christmas holidays suffering from a malarial affection, but this had occasioned no great concern until a weakening of the heart functions caused him to suffer a complete collapse. He was confined to his bed but a few days, the announcement of his death coming as a great shock to his relatives and friends.

Saturday afternoon interment took place in the Laurens cemetery, Rev. C. F. Rankin conducting the services. After the grave had been filled, the mound was covered with beautiful flowers, tributes from his numerous friends who had admired him for his sterling worth and exemplary character. The following were the pall bearers: Honorary, Dr. W. D. Ferguson, Dr. J. H. Teague, J. W. Todd, Col. H. Y. Simpson, J. Aug. Barksdale, A. Ross Blakeley, D. A. Davis, W. E. Clardy, M. L. Copeland, W. R. McCuen; Active, J. W. Todd, Jr., Boyce Clardy, Charles Simpson, Calhoun McGowan, L. B. Blackwell, M. H. Hunter, S. M. Wilkes, J. D. Watts, Frank Spratt, Clyde Fowler.

Mr. Simpson had been engaged in the plumbing business for several years, having been up to about a year ago associated with J. H. Boyd & Co. A few months ago he went to Cheraw, where he went into business on his own account and was meeting with success.

Mr. Simpson was about twenty-five years of age. He is survived by his parents and two sisters, Misses Marguerite and Hattie Simpson, students at Chicora college. He was a young man of upright and honest character and firm convictions. He was a Mason, a member of the Presbyterian church and for some time was secretary of the Sunday school.

HELPED LIBERATE PRISONERS.

**Jesse Williams Arrested on the Charge
of Aiding in the Liberation of Six
Prisoners from the County Jail.**

Jesse Williams, colored, was arrested in Greenville last week and brought here charged with aiding prisoners to escape from the county jail. It is alleged that Williams assisted Sam Price and five other negroes in making their escape a few weeks ago by secretly passing tools to the confined prisoners. The arrest was made by Deputy Sheriff Reid, who had been on the trail of the negro for some time. Williams has made some very incriminating statements about the escape of the six prisoners.

It will be remembered that Sam Price, convicted of murder and sentenced to life imprisonment, made his escape with five other negroes charged with lesser offenses several weeks ago. Sam Price has never been caught, but two of the escaped prisoners, John French and Loomis Ellison have since been apprehended.

ACCIDENTAL KILLING.

**Two Negroes Start Hunting and in
Struggle over a Gun One is Killed.**

What is said to have been an accidental killing occurred a few miles west of the city Friday when two young negro boys, Furman Bullock and Will Irby, started out hunting. According to the testimony given at the inquest, the two negroes were playfully handling a gun when it was discharged, the load entering the body of Willie Irby. The negro died a few hours later. The jury rendered a verdict of accidental homicide.

Engineering Offices Now Open.

Mr. Edward McCrady, of the firm of McCrady Bros. & Cheves, arrived in the city a few days ago to take up his residence here and to carry out contracts of his firm. Mr. McCrady will be found in the Bank of Laurens building, where he will be glad to confer with those desiring any kind of engineering work done.

Moves to Another Farm.

Mr. Marvin Coley, who has been living on Laurens Route 6, has moved to another farm a few miles from Simpsonville, where he will be located this year.

ANOTHER BANK TO BE ORGANIZED

**Meeting of Prominent Citizens Wed-
nesday Resulted in Definite Decision
to Organize \$50,000 Institution.**

At a meeting of prominent citizens held Wednesday in the new offices of the Laurens Trust Company it was definitely decided to launch a new bank in this city. It will probably be a national bank with a capital stock of \$50,000. Officers and directors of The Laurens Trust Company are the prime promoters of the new institution. The bank will be located on the first floor of the remodeled building recently bought by the trust company from the Bank of Laurens. A committee of two, Messrs R. A. Cooper and R. Fleming Jones, was appointed at the meeting to canvass the city and county for the purpose of soliciting subscriptions to the capital stock. Sufficient assurances of subscriptions were given at the meeting, however, to make certain the organization of the bank.

Since the question has arisen on the streets several times as to what relation the new institution would bear to The Laurens Trust Company, one of the officers of the trust company stated yesterday that the two institutions will be entirely separate from each other and that no part of the stock of the trust company is to be merged into that of the bank. In other words, the only relation existing will be that of occupying the same building.

The officers of the new bank have of course not yet been named and will not be named until after complete organization has been effected.

This will make the fifth regularly chartered bank in the city. The other banks are The Peoples Loan and Exchange Bank, with a capital of \$100,000, The Enterprise Bank, with a capital of \$100,000, the Bank of Laurens, with a capital of \$50,000 and the Palmetto Bank, with a capital of \$50,000. In addition to these, there are two trust companies, The Laurens Trust Company and The Home Trust Company, each with an authorized capitalization of \$50,000. The Lucas Bank, situated at the Watts Mills, just outside the incorporate limits, has a capital of \$5,000. Owings & Bobo also do a private banking business though it is not a chartered institution.

MR. MCGOWAN ENDORSED.

**Local Attorneys Are Anxious to See
Him Associate Justice.**

At a special meeting of the Laurens Bar Association held last week, Mr. F. P. McGowan the well-known attorney, was endorsed for associate justice of the supreme court. Mr. McGowan is among the most prominent of the lawyers of this state and was at one time senator from this county. His name will be presented at the joint sessions of the general assembly when they meet soon to fill the vacancies on the supreme court bench.

Negro Cuts Another.

Two Laurens negroes, Frank Richardson and Walter Barksdale, got into a difficulty while returning on the train from Augusta Sunday and before time could be called Frank Richardson had cut Walter Barksdale with a pocket knife, doing considerable injury. Besides making several deep gashes in other parts of the body, Richardson made a deep incision into the throat of his opponent, puncturing one of the smaller veins of the neck. On their arrival at Laurens Frank Richardson was placed in jail and Walter Barksdale was given medical attention. The fight took place just beyond Waterloo.

Officers Elected.

At a special convocation Adair County Council No. 2, Thursday evening, the following officers were elected: R. A. Cooper, T. I. M.; Brooks Swygert, D. I. M.; O. B. Simmons, P. C. W.; T. C. Switzer, Treas.; W. H. Washington, Recorder; C. M. Miller, C. G.; R. A. Babb, C. C.; J. F. Tolbert, Stewart; H. Terry, Sentinel.

More Land Sales.

In the list of sales made on the regular January salesday, The Advertiser failed to mention the sale of the Kay property, in Sullivan township. Two of the tracts were bought by J. S. Kilgore and three by J. G. Sullivan. The total amount realized was \$3,125. The Lee Henderson place, near Mt. Pleasant, was also sold, Jona Smith buying it for \$800.

N. B. DIAL WITHDRAWS FROM SENATE RACE

**Dislikes Being Drawn Into
Factional Fight.**

**PERSONAL AFFAIRS
DEMAND ATTENTION**

**In Interview Given out Several Days
Ago Mr. Dial Withdraws from Sena-
torial Race. Has been Urged to
Run for Governor but has Refused.**

Several days ago Mr. N. B. Dial gave out an interview relative to his candidacy for United States Senate. It will be remembered that several months ago Mr. Dial authorized a statement in the daily papers to the effect that he would be in the race again this summer to succeed Senator E. D. Smith. Yesterday he stated that after mature consideration he had come to the conclusion, for business and other reasons, not to run this year. Mr. Dial intimated that a compelling reason for his withdrawal from the field at this time was because of a dislike of being drawn into a factional fight as would likely characterize the campaign, a fight which would becloud the issues which he desired to discuss and on which he would base his claims for the office. With the people at present in a state of mind where they prefer listening to other than conservative discussions of constructive measures, Mr. Dial feels that he is unwilling to sacrifice himself in a campaign where those issues in which he has no interest would be uppermost.

Speaking of the campaign two years ago when Senator Tillman was re-elected after releasing for publication the famous Ferguson letter, Mr. Dial stated that he felt that his defeat at that time was brought about by a combination of circumstances over which he had no control and which he did not seek to control because of the questionable tactics it would have involved.

Mr. Dial having had requests from several sources that he "throw his hat into the ring for governor", he was asked about this also. In reply, he stated that he had considered the matter very seriously, but that the same reasons which had prompted him in staying out of the senatorial race also influenced him in his present intention of remaining out of this race also. However, he has a number of things concerning the public welfare which he would like to see enacted into law and it is probable that he will offer for governor or senate at some future time.

In a lengthy interview, too long to give in this correspondence, Mr. Dial reviewed the circumstances of his own life leading up to his candidacy for the United States Senate two summers ago, a life which all of his acquaintances recognize as one of considerable achievement, a life which he says it is his ambition to crown by services for his state, both to aid and assist its people in the further development of the dormant resources and to attain the honor which mature age covets. Mr. Dial deprecated the strife and unrest in the state at present, charging that the state is suffering great material losses because of the feeling of distrust and uncertainty felt towards it in the financial centers. He said the time has long been past due and is now becoming imperative for the citizens to wake up to the real needs of the hour and to quit bickering over matters of minor importance and to unite. With the recent passage of the currency bill by congress, guaranteeing a more elastic currency, he says the time was never more propitious for the southern states and especially this state to leave strife behind and to put shoulders together to develop the state and build up its credit abroad. Although not opposing the state warehouse bill as fathered by State Senator McLaurin, Mr. Dial thinks that one of the greatest things to be sought after at present is a national warehouse bill, patterned somewhat after the bonded whiskey warehouses, where the certificates of the national government, guaranteeing the storage and grade of cotton, can be used as collateral in the money markets of the world. Other things, he said, like rural credits,

LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS BEGAN YESTERDAY

**Many Important Matters to
Come Up.**

**PRIMARY REFORM
OF CHIEF CONCERN**

**Many Progressive Measures to be Pre-
sented though it is Expected that a
Division Along Factional Lines will
Hinder Progressive Legislation.**

Columbia, January 11.—The General Assembly meets Tuesday. Many members are already in the city. The approach of the session finds the State in exceptional condition and there is no especial occasion to anticipate anything unusual, as a result of the gathering of the lawmakers.

In previous years the liquor question largely overshadowed other matters, but for some reason this issue is in abeyance and will hardly be one of the absorbing questions. That people are not satisfied with existing conditions is patent, but what to do in the circumstances is the problem. Prohibition was tried out in certain sections and proved unsatisfactory on the ground that public sentiment would not enforce prohibition laws; then many counties went back to the county option system and this is not altogether satisfactory, but is apparently more satisfactory than would be State-wide prohibition or the State dispensary system. The chances are that nothing will be done with regard to the liquor question. The most likely measure is the Rittenberg bill, which has special reference to the conditions in Charleston.

Education and Roads

The educational situation in the State promises to be the overwhelming question that will be taken up by the General Assembly. It is becoming more and more appreciated every day that the best money the State spends is in education—education of any kind. The question now is how to best spend it. The common schools need more money and the General Assembly is likely to pass an Act that will raise the revenue and provide for its distribution.

Good roads will be an absorbing issue. The people want better roads and are going to have them. Just now it appears that the question will be whether or not it would not be a good idea to use a portion of the State convicts in the building of main arteries from end to end of the State. The suggestion is that at first, with convict labor the State build a main artery from the upper part to the lower part of the State and then one east and west. These would be used as types and in time other lines would be run to and from these main arteries. The suggestion is to tax the people who use such roads. An Act would have been passed taxing automobiles so much per horse power and using the money on such roads, but the hitch came over the use of the fund. Some wanted the revenue raised from an automobile tax used in the counties where the tax was derived and others wished it used in the construction of the proposed main arteries and the result was that nothing has been done up to the present time, but something is likely to be done at this session if these two points can be agreed upon—how the revenue is to be distributed and how the work is to be handled, that is, whether by an independent commission, by the commissioner of agriculture and commerce or by the State educational institutions with engineering departments.

Left-Over from 1913.

When the Assembly meets on Tuesday it will find a considerable calendar of work that was left over from the last session. Of course, it is recognized that, under the rules that this mass of previously proposed legislation is up for consideration. Conditions have changed and a new schedule of work may be arranged.

It is generally admitted that one of

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one cent postage, national conservation, etc., are important things to be done in time, but the national warehouse idea he feels is of pressing importance.